

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 2250

DEPT PASS NON-ALIGNED COLLECTIVES

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, EG, CE

SUBJ: NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

1. IN SEPARATE DISCUSSIONS AMBASSADOR HAS HAD WITH SENIOR FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL AND EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR, THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS EMERGED ON THE NAM MEETING AND ARE PASSED ON FOR WHAT THEY ARE WORTH.

2. MFA OFFICIAL SAID THAT YUGOSLAVS AND "SEVERAL OTHERS" ARE "FED UP" WITH THE CUBANS, SINCE "THEY ARE NO MORE NON-ALIGNED THAN THE SOVIET UNION." HE BELIEVES "THERE WERE TOO MANY COINCIDENCES," THAT THEY CONSCIOUSLY PLAYED ONE OFF AGAINST THE OTHER TO ENSURE HAVANA AS THE VENUE FOR THE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BOARD MEETING, GIVING CUBA THE RIGHT TO PROPOSE THE DRAFT OF THE COMMUNIQUE. THE GSL WOULD HAVE PREFERRED THE ALGERIANS OR JAMAICANS AS HOSTS OVER THE CUBANS. MFA OFFICIAL BELIEVES THAT THIS TIME THERE IS BOUND TO BE A HASSLE OVER WHO SHOULD REALLY BELONG TO THE NAM, A DISPUTE LIKELY TO SURFACE AT HAVANA AND SHARPEN AT BELGRADE MEETING IN SEPTEMBER.

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3. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR THINKS THE LOCALE WILL NOT MATTER BUT THAT THE "INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT" WILL AFFECT THE STRENGTH OR WEAKNESS OF THE NAM MODERATES. HE ARGUES THAT RIGHT NOW THE "MODERATES" (I.E., EGYPTIANS AND THOSE WHOSE INTERESTS PARALLEL THEIRS) FEEL HARD PRESSED, SINCE THEY SEEM T GET LITTLE SUPPORT FROM THE U.S. AND ITS FRIENDS. ARMS TO

SOMALIA, VIGOROUS SUPPORT FOR THE NON-GUERILLAS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND OF COURSE MORE MOVEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE FULL DELIVERY OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S PLANE PACKAGE WILL MAKE A MODERATE STANCE IN NAM WORTHWHILE. IF NOT, THE RADICAL REJECTIONISTS WILL BE VERY MUCH STRENGTHENED.

4. IN EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR'S VIEW, FOREIGN MINISTER HAMEED IS A NICE MAN BUT INEXPERIENCED AND UNSURE OF HIMSELF. HAMEED WANTS SO MUCH TO KEEP THE NAM TOGETHER THAT HE WILL LIKELY YIELD TO THOSE WHO ARE MOST ARTICULATE, THOUGH THE INDIANS AND YUGOSLAVS ARE AGAIN BEGINNING TO TAKE A GREATER INTEREST IN LINKING WITH THE GSL TO STIFFEN THE LATTER'S BACK AGAINST THE RADICALS.

5. COMMENT: WHETHER THE INDIANS AND YUGOSLAVS WILL BE ABLE TO STIFFEN HAMEED'S BACK AGAINST THE RADICAL SI PROBLEMATIC. AS LONG AS SRI LANKA'S CHAIRMAN OF THE NAM, IT WILL TEND TO FOLLOW ITS PAST POLICY OF BOWING TO THE CONSENSUS.
WRIGGINS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT/NOT PASSED NON-ALIGNED COLLECTIVES

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NNN

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